

## **Top Ten DRC Testimonies:**

1. 150+ people accepted Christ
2. Young IDP girl healed miraculously
3. Legitimate local contacts made
4. Personal financial breakthrough for local contacts
5. Empowered an indigenous missionary to receive surgery
6. The women seminars have produced a sustained women's ministry in Goma
7. 50+ orphans committed themselves to ministry
8. 100+ pastors trained in 3 day seminar in theology and community development
9. Prophecies came to pass in rural bush churches
10. Safe travels to, in/around and from the DRC

After crossing a closed border by foot, with everything we owned on our back; after being surrounded by bandits and fleeing out of Gisenyi, Rwanda in a small cab at night, going up and down mountains and dirt roads, I remember the feeling of relief I felt when we entered Kigali, the city we would fly out of.

I remember the gravid feeling I had when we hugged some of the strongest, hardest Congolese men, saying farewell. I remember the feeling setting in, when we saw tears rolling out of their eyes and down their cheeks.

I remember the promise we made to God and ourselves as we said the words, "We'll be back."

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We began our journey to the DRC, without knowing where we would lay our heads, no vehicle to drive and only two e-mail contacts. The most dependable item we had was our faith in God. It was the substance of all we hoped for and the evidence of what we had not yet seen. We didn't know much, but we knew the word "Go."

We walked through camps with up to 50,000 internally displaced people living in homes made out of nothing more than sticks and second hand tarps. Think about the tarps you cover your pool with.



Julianne, a woman I befriended in the camp, would be blessed to use it for a roof to her 'home.' Think about rain pouring on these 'tents' at night, watching your children squirm, trying to find a comfortable position on the muddy ground. This is the reality of thousands of Congolese IDP's, refugees within their own country. Andrew and I walked with our translators through those camps, sharing a message of hope with these people. We prayed with them, encouraged them.



"You are different than other white men. We see some in the cities, riding in their cars doing business. But they don't care about us; they don't care about lower people. We know you must be like Jesus." That's what Mamma Howa said, one of the women who came to almost all of the woman's meetings we held while staying in Goma. Amethyst spent time ministering to the women: sharing her stories with them and listening to theirs.

She talked with them about what God's word says about a woman, their value and worth. She dove deep into the word of God, giving practical knowledge about situations they faced every day. And they listened so intently . . .



With the help of our indigenous friends we put together large pastors' conferences, where we gave them in-depth training in theology, spiritual development and community development. Many of these pastors have never had formal training and there's a huge need for that, especially in the rural areas.

During our time in the DRC, we did all we could to create lasting relationships with pastors and church members. We opened our hearts to them and simply preached, "Silver and gold we don't have, but what we do have we will give you..." We gave them the love of Christ. We taught what we knew and allowed them to teach us too.

Over and over God would provide 'the right you name it', from a place to stay to a pastor to a vehicle. We knew He was truly guiding our steps. The DRC is the most difficult area we have ever worked in, but in the midst of it, we felt complete peace. We knew that's where we were supposed to be. We had goals for this trip and God far exceeded all of them. We made great contacts who are excited to work with us and us with them.

We learned so much. Most importantly we saw God work miraculously.

In one church, the Holy Spirit led Andrew to have a prayer meeting at the end of his sermon. When we did, God moved so heavily hardly anyone could stand, everyone young and old was crying out to God. People were set free, and breakthrough occurred. The prayer meeting went on for hours.



I want you to know that this could not have happened without you. Not only your finances but your prayers made this a successful trip. Hardly any missionaries work in the DRC, because of the difficulties faced. I believe you as a team protected us with your prayers.



We need you to keep praying though because this work has only yet begun.

Please join us in prayer as we seek God's best for future planning and preparation.

We hope you're blessed,

*Andrew & Amethyst*